

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 19, 2006. Claims 3 and 15-18 are presented for examination, of which Claim 3 is in independent form. Claims 19-25 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing Claims 3 and 15-18.

Claims 20 and 24 were rejected based on the informality that Claim 20 (line 2), Claim 24 (line 2), “the same sides” should read --the same side- -; Claims 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,996,413 (McDaniel et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,449,014 (Throngnumchai); and Claims 22-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McDaniel in view of Throngnumchai and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,512,543 (Kuroda et al.). Claims 19-25 have all been cancelled, and the remaining claims have been allowed as noted above. The foregoing actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding correctness of the rejections, but rather strictly to obtain an earlier allowance and to expedite issuance.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicant’s undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully

requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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